



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Gruening, et al.

Examiner: Yong Soo Chung

Serial No.: 10/788,663

Group Art Unit: 1617

Filed: February 27, 2004

Docket: 136-36

Confirmation No.: 3625

Dated: May 2, 2006

For: ANTI-INFECTION HYDROGEL
COMPOSITIONS

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

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on May 2, 2006

Signed: 

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

In the Office Action dated April 10, 2006, the Examiner imposed a Restriction Requirement to one of the following inventions under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. §121:

Group I: Claims 1-17, 18-19 (in part), and 20-23, drawn to a hydrogel composition comprising a poly(N-vinyl lactam), a polysaccharide, water, and a single therapeutic agent besides spermicide;

Group II: Claims 24-32, drawn to a method of inhibiting the intrusion of microorganisms into a body cavity of a mammal comprising applying into the body cavity a hydrogel composition comprising a poly(N-vinyl lactam), a polysaccharide, water, and a therapeutic agent; and

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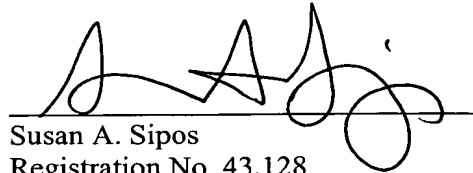
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Group III.: Claim 33, drawn to contraceptive hydrogel comprising poly(N-vinyl lactam), a polysaccharide, water, and a spermicide.

Applicants elect the subject matter defined by the claims in **Group II** without traverse. A Preliminary Amendment canceling the non-elected claims accompanies this response.

In view of the present election, it is believed that this application is in condition for further consideration and examination. If resolution of any remaining issues is required prior to examination of the application, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Susan A. Sipos', is written over a horizontal line.

Susan A. Sipos
Registration No. 43,128
Attorney for Applicants

HOFMANN & BARON, LLP
6900 Jericho Turnpike
Syosset, New York 11791
(516) 822-3550
SAS/cb/dlg